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In the interpretation and elaboration of the author's last notes, some of which were fragmentary, and written after the lamented writer was unfit for work, as well as in interpreting and rearranging the extensive additions or modifications to the manuscript, Professor Knowlton, the editor, has shown great discretion, making no alterations or enlargements other than those necessary to the expression of the author's intended meaning, or for priority or consistency, such alterations being indicated by brief foot-notes. To him we are also indebted for a valuable tabulation of the geological and geographical distribution of the species, a compilation involving much time and consultation of the literature of the science.

It is unfortunate that those plates with washed drawings, made under Professor Lesquereux's personal supervision for the lithographer, should have, for financial reasons, been sacrificed, even though the photo-gravure work is of good quality. Much distinctness of the nervation is lost, as may be noted in a comparison with the last plates in the volume, prepared especially for the cheaper process. Although, as in too many of the paleontological publications of the United States Geological Survey, the date on the title page is earlier than the actual publication of the work, the date (1892) on the outside page is, in this instance, correct.

DAVID WHITE.

Cretaceous Fossil Plants from Minnesota. By LEO LESQUEREUX. Vol. III., Final Report on Geology and Natural History Survey of Minnesota. Feb. 15, 1893, pp. 1–22; pl. A. B.

The distinguished author of this short paper died in 1889, yet the evidences of his untiring energy are still coming to hand. This paper, bears internal evidence of having been prepared about the time of the completion of his *Flora of the Dakota Group*, which has likewise only just been published. It is prefaced by a short interesting account of the introduction and development of plant-life, illustrated by a wealth of examples and statistics.

Cretaceous fossil plants have been known from Minnesota for many years, in fact, several species were obtained by members of the Hayden survey, but this is the first complete systematic review of them. They come mostly from New Ulm, in Redwing Co., and Goodhue township in Goodhue Co. The amount of material examined was very scanty, there having been but fifty-five specimens, yet the richness of the flora is shown by the fact that there are twenty-eight species. Of this number, no less than eight are described as new to science. The new species belong to the genera Sequoia, Populus, Cissus, Alnites, Ficus, Diospyros, and Protophyllum. To these must be added four forms not specifically named, leaving sixteen species, having a distribution outside of the State of Minnesota. Of these sixteen species, fourteen are found in the Dakota group of Kansas and Nebraska, and six in the Cretaceous of Greenland, four species being common to the two localities. The species described as new, are more or less closely related to the forms from the Dakota group, or from the middle Cretaceous of Greenland, the whole serving to fix very definitely the horizon from which they came. The new, or especially interesting species are clearly depicted on the plates.

There are several obvious typographical errors as 'Kovne' for 'Kome,' 'nibrasciensis' for 'nebrascensis,' etc., which doubtless would not have occurred, had the author lived to read the proof himself.

F. H. KNOWLTON.

On the Organization of the Fossil Plants of the Coal-measures. By W. C. WILLIAMSON. Philosophical Transactions Royal Society, London: vol. 184 (1893) B. pp. 1–38; pl. 1–9.

This memoir, the nineteenth of this invaluable series, is devoted mainly to a consideration of the structure of *Lepidodendron Harcourtii.* This now classic plant was first named and described by Witham in 1833. It was also figured and described anew by Lindley and Hutton in their *Fossil Flora of Great Britain*, and was still later made the basis of an elaborate memoir by Adolph Brongniart. It was then referred by Brongniart to the cryptogams, but when he later discovered in allied forms, a secondary woody zone, developed exogenously outside of the central woody cylinder, he concluded that it must be a conifer. Williamson has long ago shown that the Lepidodendra frequently develop this secondary woody zone in mature stems, and that they are undoubted cryptogams. He was, however, unable to prove this for *L. Harcourtii*, for specimens well enough preserved to show internal structure, had not been before discovered. The present paper deals in an elaborate manner with all the authentic specimens, including the type of this species, and the author concludes that although none of the specimens were large enough to show the secondary thickening, this species is a true Lycopod, not unlike others of the genus Lepidodendron. Incidentally, the so-called genera Halonia and Ulodendron are treated of, the conclusion being that they are simply different forms of fruiting branches of Lepidodendroid and Sigillarian plants. This paper has a pronounced geological value, in that it affords a readily recognizable fossil, characteristic of a definite horizon.

F. H. KNOWLTON.